

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

181440Z Mar 02

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PAGE 01 HARARE 00706 181452Z  
ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00
	DS-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01
	VCE-00	NSAE-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	IIP-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02
	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/003W				

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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1242  
INFO NSC WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS HARARE 000706

SIPDIS

AF/PD FOR COX AND ROBERTSON, AF/S FOR KRAFT AND  
SCHLACHTER, AF/RA FOR SWANN, INR/R/MR, NSC FOR JENDAYI  
FRAZER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ZI](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION U. S. IMPLICATED IN PLAN TO  
OUST MUGABE; HARARE

1. THE LEAD STORY IN THE MARCH 16 EDITION OF THE  
BULAWAYO-BASED GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED DAILY "CHRONICLE"  
ASSERTS THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS A "SECRET"  
PLAN TO OUST PRESIDENT ROBERT MUGABE. THE ARTICLE,  
HEADLINED "MASS STAYAWAY PLANNED: BRITAIN AND U.S.  
PLAN TO OUST PRESIDENT MUGABE," ACCUSES THE U.S. AND  
BRITAIN OF "PLANNING AND DIRECTING" WORK STOPPAGES AS  
"AN EXCUSE" TO LAUNCH "A MILITARY INTERVENTION AGAINST  
ZIMBABWE." EXCERPTS OF ARTICLE, AUTHORED BY "SPECIAL  
PROJECTS EDITOR" INNOCENT MADONKO, FOLLOW:
2. "LACK OF STRUCTURE HAS FORCED THE OPPOSITION  
MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE (MDC) PARTY TO ENLIST  
SERVICES OF THE HEAVILY WESTERN-FUNDED NATIONAL  
CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY (NCA) AND THE ZIMBABWE  
CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (ZCTU) TO MOBILIZE WORKERS  
FOR MASS ACTION FOLLOWING DEFEAT OF ITS LEADER, MR.  
MORGAN TSVANGIRAI BY PRESIDENT MUGABE, 'CHRONICLE'  
LEARNED THIS WEEK. THE MASS ACTIONS, BEING PLANNED AND  
DIRECTED BY THE U.S. AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS WILL BE  
USED AS 'AN EXCUSE' TO LAUNCH A MILITARY INTERVENTION  
AGAINST ZIMBABWE. THE TERMS 'CIVIC SOCIETY' AND  
'LABOR' ARE BEING BANDIED ABOUT AS THE WEST  
ACCELERATES PLANS TO OUST THE LEGITIMATELY ELECTED  
(MR.) MUGABE. . . MUGABE CREAMED MR. TSVANGIRAI IN  
THE JUST-ENDED ELECTION ON 9 AND 10 MARCH. MOST  
OBSERVERS EXCEPT NORWAY HAVE DECLARED THE POLLS FREE  
AND FAIR. THE U.S. HAS CONDEMNED THE POLLS AS  
'FLAWED' SETTING THE STAGE FOR THE PLANNED MILITARY  
INTERVENTION. BUT THE BIGGEST HITCH OF THE PLAN IS  
THE FACT THAT MDC HAS NO GRASSROOTS STRUCTURES HENCE  
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PAGE 03 HARARE 00706 181452Z  
THE DECISION TO USE THE ZCTU AND NCA, BODIES THAT MR.  
TSVANGIRAI ONCE ADMITTED ARE 'THE SOUL OF MDC. . .'  
ACCORDING TO. . .SOURCES, WESTERN GOVERNMENTS LED BY  
THE U. S. AND BRITAIN, WERE PRESSURING THE MDC TO  
UTILIZE NON POLITICAL STRUCTURES TO AUTHENTICATE THE  
VIOLENCE AS 'CIVIL UNREST' A MOVE EXPECTED TO FURTHER  
CRIPPLE THE ECONOMY. . . ."

SULLIVAN

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